Circa 1840

Linwood Children's Centre faces west at the end of Church Road, just north of its intersection with Park Drive. It is a five bay wide, two bay deep, two and a half story high, slate, mansard roof, ashlar granite block building, resting on a stone foundation, with two wide brick chimneys inset into its north wall and an additional central wide brick chimney in the middle of the south half of the building. A fourth chimney is located on the south side of the building's east wall. All windows in the building, with the exception of the old stone building it incorporates, are decorated with flat stone lintels and projecting stone sills. The building incorporates an earlier one story high, field stone building, featuring fine quoining and stretcher stone, flat arched lintels, which occupies the southeast corner of the present building. Upon this has been placed a second and third floor, as well as an attic whose second and third floor windows are decorated with flat stone lintels and projecting stone sills.

The west facade features the central, double paneled, rectangular entrance, surmounted by a two light transom and flat stone lintel and flanked by four vertical side lights. Eight wide granite block steps and landing lead to the flat roofed portico, covering the entrance, held by two doric columns and two pilasters.

Fenestration for the building is vertically aligned and proportionally scaled. Windows are double-hung, generally holding six-over-six lights.

The interior features a fine central hall and staircase, random width floors and cross paneled doors. Fluted lintels and pilasters for windows and interior doors are joined by square corners, decorated with rosettes.

Constructed by Mr. Robert Hare, who also built the Oaks, it was acquired in the mid-nineteenth century by Major George Washington Peters, of the Washington and her families of Virginia.

His daughter, Gabriella married James MacKubin of Grey Rock and constructed MacAlpine, another notable French Empire style mansion.

### MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MAGI# 1401934631

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

HISTORIC					
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Linwood Children			en's Center		
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XEXCELLENT \*

\_\_GOOD

\_\_FAIR

HO-193 E.C. Quad. Dist. 2

CONDITION

X.DETERIORATED \* \*

XUNALTERED

X\_ORIGINAL SITE

**CHECK ONE** 

\* - New section

\_\_RUINS

\*\* - Old section

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Linwood Children's Centre faces west at the end of Church Road, just north of its intersection with Park Drive. It is a five bay wide, two bay deep, two and a half story high, slate, mansard roof, ashlar granite block building, resting on a stone foundation, with two wide brick chimneys inset into its north wall and an additional central wide brick chimney in the middle of the south half of the building. A fourth chimney is located on the south side of the building's east wall. All windows in the building, with the exception of the old stone building it incorporates, are decorated with flat stone lintels and projecting stone sills. The building incorporates an earlier one story high, field stone building, featuring fine guoining and stretcher stone, flat arched lintels, which occupies the southeast corner of the present building. Upon this has been placed a second and third floor, as well as an attic whose second and third floor windows are decorated with flat stone lintels and projecting stone sills.

#### SOUTH ELEVATION

This old section on its south wall is slightly recessed. It holds two apertures on this south wall. That in the west bay has been blocked in for a fan unit. It is decorated with a stretcher stone, flat arched lintel. That opening in the east bay is a louvered window, featuring a splayed brick, flat arched lintel and flat wooden sill. Vertically aligned to these are two second and third floor, proportionally scaled windows, holding six-over-six lights, surmounted by a simple wooden cornice, decorated by ten (10) fascia.

A gabled roof dormer window is centered above, holding an arched, double-hung window with two-over-two lights. The ground floor of this old stone building holds three openings, surmounted by flat cement lintels. That on the west holds a 10-10 light, casement window. The central bay holds a rectangular entrance and the east bay holds a blocked-in paneled rectangular inset. Presently, this wall is being held by steel girders.

The south wall of the newer section of the house holds a central, vertically aligned and proportionally scaled first and second floor window, with a similar dormer window to those already described above. Beneath in the foundation rests a two-light cellar window on the west side and a four-light rectangular entrance door on the east. The first floor window of this section holds six-over-four lights, while the second floor window holds six-over-six lights. A stone belt course, aligned to the flat stone lintel, decorating the cellar window runs along this elevation of the newer section of the house. Thirteen wooden brackets decorate the cornice on this elevation.

#### EAST ELEVATION

The east elevation is asymmetrical and appears to have been con-

structed in three stages: 1) The gable roof outline of the old stone building is visible. It holds two apertures. The one in the south bay is blocked in, surmounted by a flat stone lintel, while the one in the second south bay holds a louvered french door, surmounted by a flat cement lintel. The stone building added to the old stone building is three bays wide here. 2) Its south bay is now a central east entrance, which has been covered by a one story high, shed roofed, frame, dining room addition. Above rests a six-over-six light staircase landing window and above that a two light eyebrow window at the attic landing.

Two first and second floor, six-over-six light windows are seen at this elevation. 3) A second and third floor were finally added to the original fieldstone building, lying flush with the stone addition. It holds two second floor windows. That on the south side has been blocked in, that on the north side holds six-over-six lights. This section is now supported by steel girders. This entire east wall is decorated with a wooden cornice, held by thirty wooden brackets. Five similar dormer windows rest above.

#### WEST FACADE

The west facade of the building holds the main entrance door, a double paneled, rectangular entrance, surmounted by a two light transom and flat stone lintel and flanked by four vertical side lights.

Two wide granite steps lead to a landing and then to another landing and six other wide granite steps which lead to the landing of the flat roofed portico, covering the entrance and held by two wooden doric columns and two flat pilasters. A lantern hangs from the centre of its ceiling.

The entrance is flanked by two rectangular, double-hung windows. Those on the north side hold six-over-six lights. Those on the south side hold six-over-four light windows. Five vertically aligned and proportionally scaled second floor, double-hung, windows, holding six-over-six lights rest above, with five, gabled roof, attic dormers placed in the mansard roof. That in the central bay is larger in scale than the others. All, however, are similar, holding arched, double-hung windows, with two-over-two lights.

That in the central bay is decorated by paneling with saw toothed terminations, inset into the "A" of the gable. The slate. mansard roof is decorated with a wooden cornice, held by thirty one scrolled brackets at this elevation.

Beneath in the foundation rest vertically aligned basement windows, decorated with flat stone lintels and projecting stone sills, which are featured on all windows throughout the building. The lintels of the basement windows continue along this facade to create a stone belt course.

A square, onion domed cupola decorates the centre of the roof line, holding a roman arched, double-hung, two-over-two light window, decorated by roman arched wooden archivolts on each elevation. Sixteen scrolled brackets decorate the corners of its cornice.

#### NORTH ELEVATION

The north elevation holds two one light rectangular entrance doors, surmounted by two light transoms and flat stone lintels and two second floor apertures, which open to the flat roof of a one story high open porch, which runs along this entire elevation, supported by five square posts and two flat pilasters. Two dormers, similar to those described rest in the mansard roof between the two wide brick chimneys, with corbeled brick termination, which have already been mentioned. A wooden staircase runs from the ground up to the third floor.

#### INTERIOR

Linwood's interior is noteworthy, featuring a very wide central hall with staircase leading from the first to the third floor, featuring round, tapered spindles, a representative feature of homesbuilt around 1840 in Howard County.

Wide random width floors are featured throughout the house and cross paneled doors. Fluted lintels and pilasters for windows and interior doors are joined by square corners decorated with rosettes.

Almost all the marble fire places have been covered. A fine black marble one, however, is found in the northeast corner room of the second floor. It is very simple and direct in design, composed of two flat pilasters, flat lintel, architrave and mantle shelve.

Fine plaster work is also featured throughout the house, with the centre of each room'sceiling featuring a curvilinear floral rosette pattern. Such a medallion is found in the downstairs hall. The ceilings have been lowered to conserve energy, but almost all remain beneath the covering.

Though the building appears to be in excellent condition, the original fieldstone walls of the original one-story high, fieldstone building, located in the southeast corner of the building, have deteriorated to such an extent that these walls have buckled (probably due to the weight of the granite block construction of the second and third floors added at a later date) and by buckling have placed the second and third floors in jeopardy.

The Linwood Children's Center, which now occupies the building, specializing in teaching children with learning disabilities, has begun a campaign to raise the needed money for this rehabilitation project. Some \$250,000 is estimated to be needed for the project. Presently prisoners are being released, under Project Impact, to work on the project and a benefit at Martin's West February 22, 1980 is being planned by the Lion's Club to help raise money for the project.

Other than the southeast corner of the building, the later three story high, "L" shaped building wrapped around it is of solid construction, resting on a strong stone foundation.

When Linwood was taken over in 1955 by the Linwood Child Center, under the directorship of Miss Jeanne M. Simons, much work had to be done. A new roof had to be put on the building, the entire building rewired, and since there was initially no water, a new well had to be dug and new plumbing installed. In addition, central heating was also installed, replacing the open fireplaces and Franklin stoves which once supplied the only heat for the building.

In conclusion, the "L" shaped granite block structure is in excellent condition. The southeast corner of the building, however, is in a deteriorated state and their interiors held together in both the basement, first and second floors by an iron grid system with exterior steel girders holding the outside walls.

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SPECIFIC DATES

Circa 1840

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Linwood Children's Centre, once called simply Linwood, one of the most impressive homes in Howard County, is significant architecturally, historically and educationally to not only Howard County, and the State of Maryland, but the United States at large.

Architecturally, it is representative of how often American domestic architecture evolved from a simple single story, gabled roof stone dwelling unit with loft to a very handsome French Empire style mansion. Often several stages of development occured before the finished product, of which the front facade of Linwood is such a fine example, presenting a unified and brilliant composition in scale and stylistic detail.

Initially only a modest, gabled roof, stone house was constructed on this site. Later, when Major George Washington Peters acquired the property for his daughter to attend the neighboring Patapsco Female Institute, the house was enlarged. At this period, the building might well have been a two story high, gabled roof stone house, constructed on a large scale and featuring an intersecting gable roof "L" plan wrapped around two sides of the original stone building. This addition created a large interior central hall plan which ran the depth of the building with entrances at each end and a very wide staircase running from first to third floors. The round tapered spindles of this staircase have been found to be representative of 1840 Howard County construction.

Later, in the 1880's, with the introduction of the French Empire style to America, Linwood was further enlarged and refined. During this period it is believed that the granite block second and third floors were added to the original fieldstone building, whose gable roof outline is still visible on the back elevation of the building. To this was added the fine mansard roof we see today with its graceful dormers featured on each elevation, all of which is further embellished by the addition of a central cupola.

Historically, Linwood also is of significance, written of extensively in Mrs. Celia Holland's book entitled, Ellicott City: Mill Town, U.S.A. Here Mrs. Holland relates that a Mr. Hare is supposed to have constructed the original stone house in the 1780's. Later CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

in the 1840's the property was acquired by Major George Washington Peters, previously mentioned. He is noted as the owner of the house on both the 1860 Martennet Map and the 1878 Hopkin's Atlas. He was notable as a member of the Washington and Lee families. His daughter Gabriella grew up to marry James MacKubin and build the fine mansion, Alpine. Mr. Irving Stone, when speaking of Robert E. Lee's visit to Baltimore, relates that he, Colonel Lee stopped by at Linwood to visit Major Peters.

Later still, the building came under the ownership of Judge Merrick, who spent his summers here, inviting his family and grandchildren to share in the enjoyment of this fine old home. One of his daughters, Mary Merrick, was instrumental in founding the Guild of the Christ Child.

Finally, today, it stands as a respected educational institution, serving to bring enlightenment to "special" children, many of whom are autistic. This has been accomplished under the direction of Ms. Jeanne Simons, who many years ago worked with Ms. Mary Merrick in the field in Washington, D.C., later to begin Linwood in Howard County, and discover it to have been the summer home of the Merrick family.

Historically, architecturally and educationally significant to
Howard County and the State of Maryland, Linwood lies within the Ellicott
City Study Area emanating from the National Register District but is
presently outside the boundaries of the local Ellicott City Historic
District.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Holland, Celia M., Ellicott City, Maryland: Mill Town, U.S.A., Tuxedo, 1970, p.p. 126-134.

Interview with Mrs. Jeanne Simons at Linwood Children's Center on January 9, 1980

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY	
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA	
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3.00 acres	
Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 25	
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION	
Please see Howard County Land Records, Libe	er <u>269</u> Folio <u>122</u>
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STA	TE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
STATE Maryland COUNTY Howa	rd
STATE COUNTY	
11 FORM PREPARED BY NAME / TITLE	
Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist	
ORGANIZATION Office of Planning & Zoning Communication	DATE
Office of Planning & Zoning-Comprehensive Planning S  STREET & NUMBER  3450 Court House Drive	TELEPHONE
city of town Ellicott City	STATE Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Form 10-300 (Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

N. R. FIELD SHEET

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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# Children's Center

# Seeks New Home

No Ch Times 2,25,77

The Linwood's Children Center, a treatment center for emotionally disturbed children in Ellicott City is planning a new residential building, since fire regulations are forcing present dormitory facilities to close.

To build a new dormitory facility
Linwood must raise funds,
according to Nathan Miller,
president of the board of directors,
through public donations.

The new dormitory, which would cost \$60,000 might allow Linwood to expand community services and

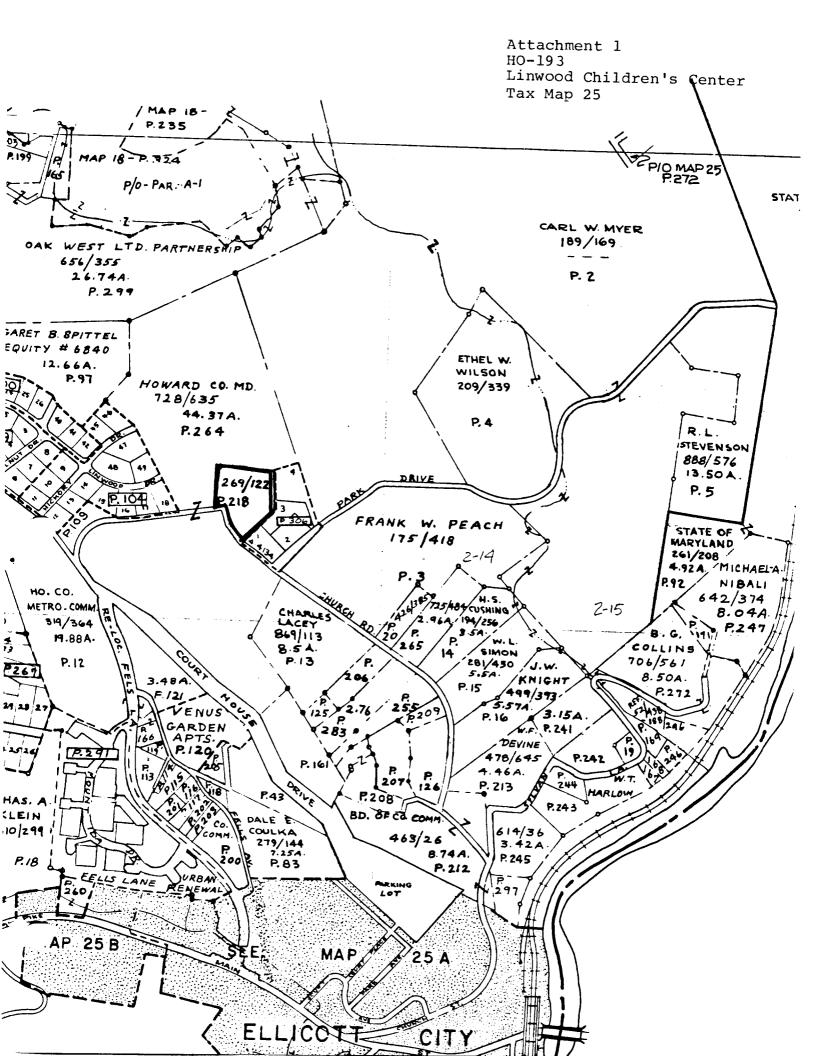
treat more children. Linwood was established in 1955 as a non-profit, non-sectarian, residential day care treatment center for seriously disturbed young children.

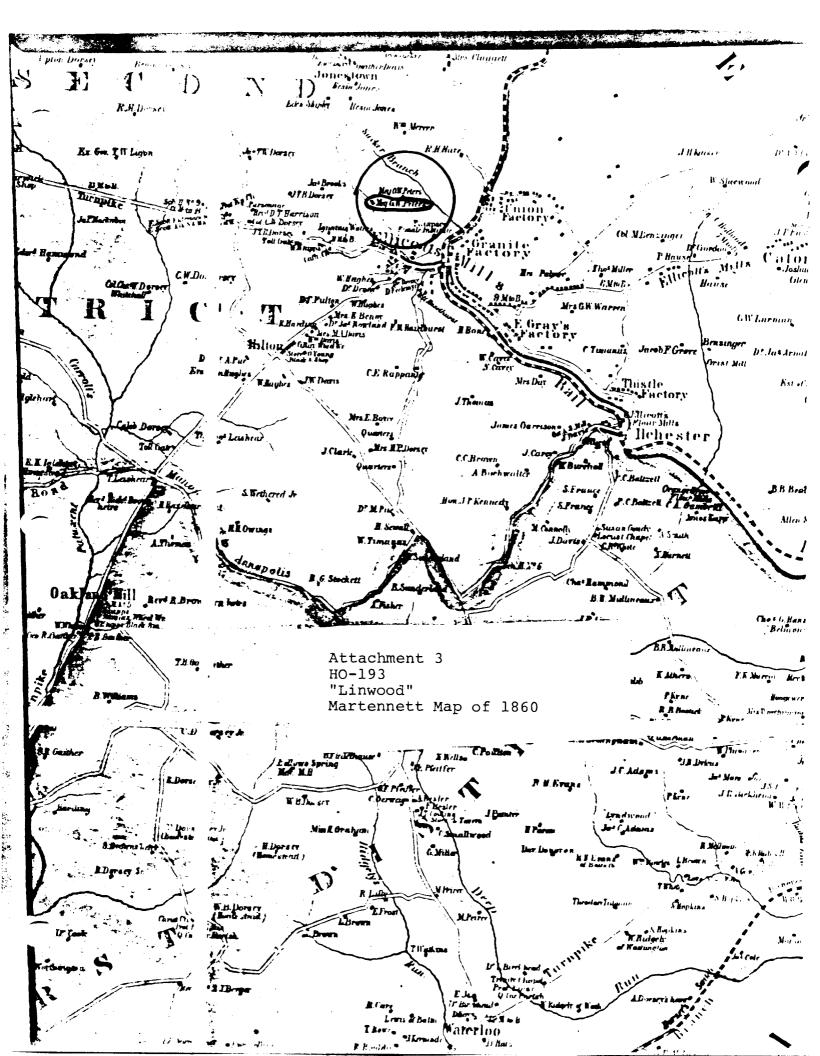
Linwood, Mr. Miller said, has a world-wide reputation for the types of treatment offered.

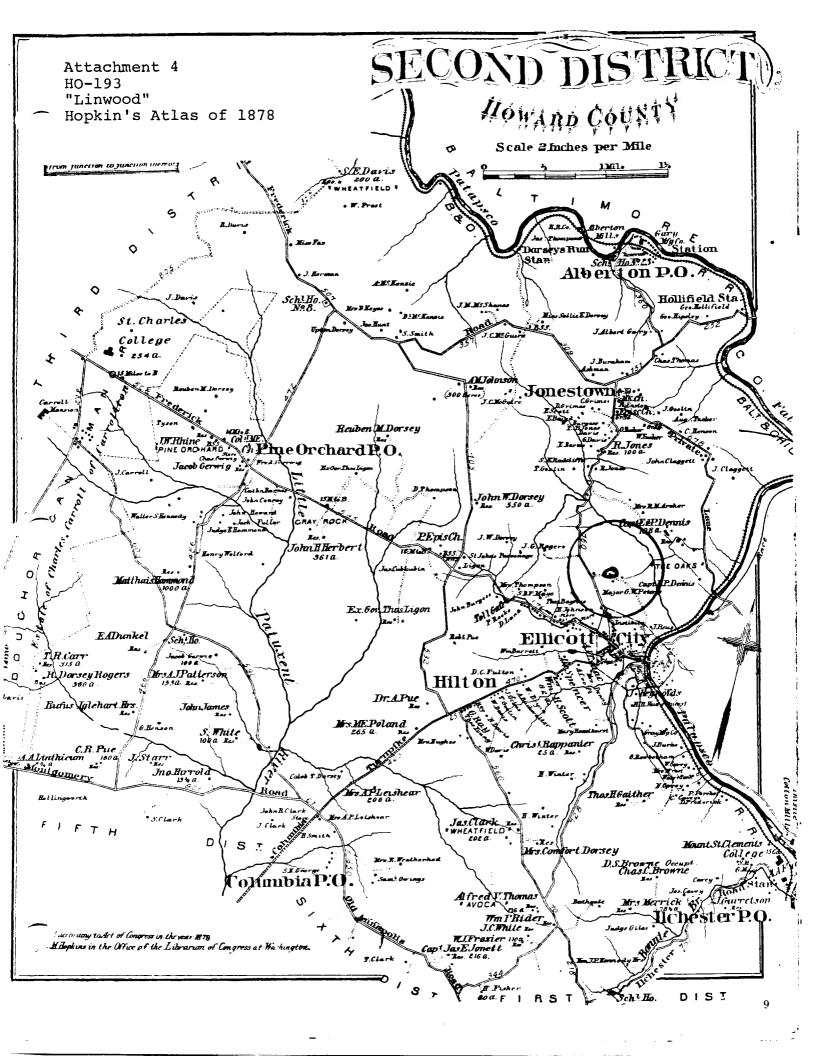
Groups of individuals wishing to make a contribution to the Linwood building fund may send their donations to: Linwood Children's Center Building Fund, The Linwood's Children's Center, Ellicott City, 21043. All Contributions are tax deductible.

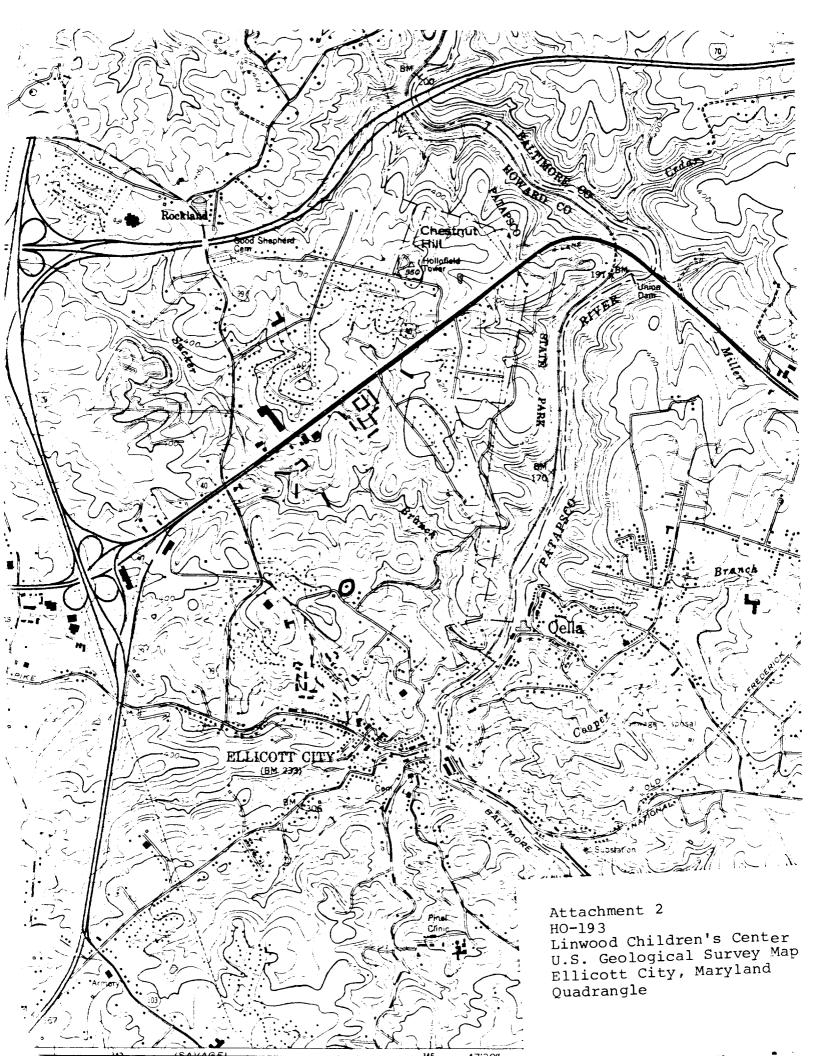


Building Must Go Linwood, a school for emotionally disturbed children, needs public support in the range of \$60,000--- to replace this old dormitory facility with a new building. Fire regulations are forcing the old building into obsolescence.







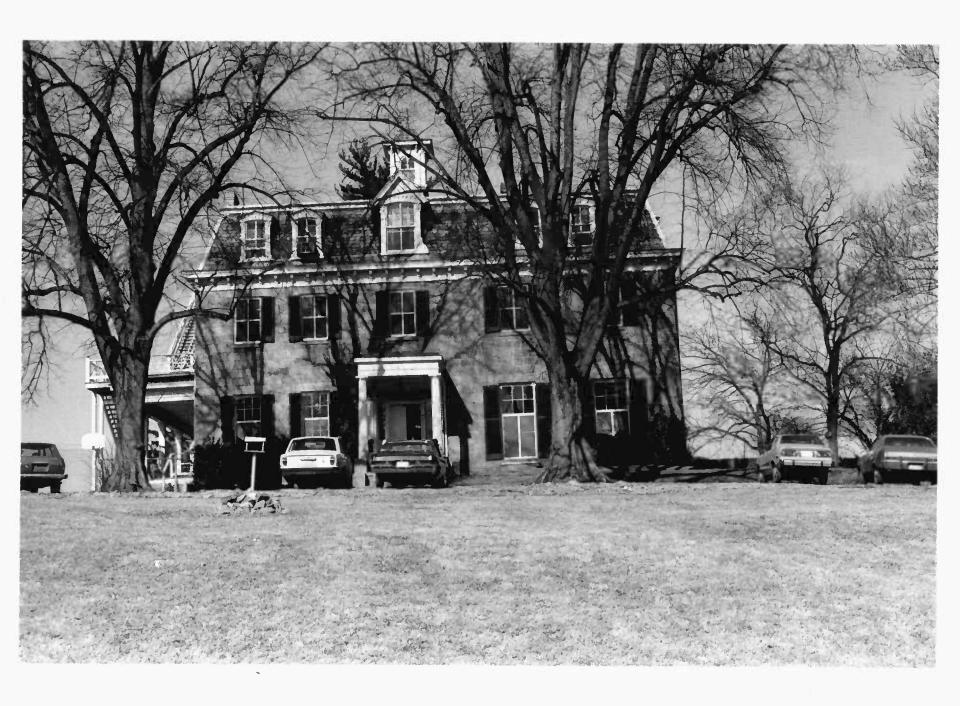




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